

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8331

INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 9848

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: PRC NATIONAL DAY EDITORIAL

SUMMARY. THE PRC'S JOINT EDITORIAL MARKING NATIONAL DAY FOCUSES ON THE RECENT PARTY CONGRESS AND CALLS FOR THOROUGH STUDY OF ITS DOCUMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. PEKING'S TRADITIONAL NATIONAL DAY EDITORIAL, JOINTLY CARRIED IN ITS LEADING PUBLICATIONS OCTOBER 1, UNSURPRISINGLY FOCUSES ON THE RECENTLY HELD TENTH PARTY CONGRESS. IN A REVERSAL OF PRIORITIES OVER LAST YEAR'S EDITORIAL, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ARE VIRTUALLY OMITTED, AND THE DISCUSSION CONCENTRATES ON DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONCERNS. AND EVEN THESE ARE DISCUSSED IN BROAD TERMS AND GENERALITIES. NOTHING IS SAID ON ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL SUBJECTS; PRESUMABLY THIS IS LEFT FOR THE COMING NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS

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WHICH THE EDITORIAL MENTIONS WITHOUT GIVING ANY NEW INDICATION OF

TIMING.

2. THE EDITORIAL HEWS TO THE LINE OF THE PARTY CONGRESS POLITICAL REPORT IN A WAY THAT SEEMS CALCULATED TO AVOID STIRRING UP DISPUTE. THE THEME IS A CALL FOR STUDY OF THE CONGRESS DOCUMENTS, AN ACTIVITY ALREADY UNDERWAY IN THE COUNTRY, AND THERE IS A HINT THAT MAO PERSONALLY HAS CALLED FOR THE LAUNCHING OF AAN ORGANIZED CAM-

PAIGN IN THIS RESPECT. THE EDITORIAL NOTES THAT HE "RECENTLY... AGAIN POINTED OUT" THE NEED TO RUN STUDY CLASSES OF THREE MONTHS DURATIONFY FOUR TIMES A YEAR, FOR WORKER-PEASANT-SOLDIER CADRE.

3. THE CALL FOR STUDY IMPLIES A FELT NEED TO WIN GREATER UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTANCE WITHIN THE PRC OF RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS, AND SUGGESTS THAT CONTROVERSIES MAY STILL RUN DEEP BEHIND THE NEW PARTY COALITION. THE EDITIRIAL REITERATES THAT FAMILIAR DEFENSE LINE ON THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION--TYBT THE NEED FOR IT, AND THE VICTORIES IT SCORED MUST BE "FULLY RECOGNIZED"-- AND THERE IS A WARNING THAT THE DEFEAT OF THE LIN PIAO CLIQUE IS NOT THE END OF THE STRUGGLE OVER THE PARTY LINE. THE NEED TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE TWO TYPES OF CONTRADICTIONS IS REPEATEDLY MENTIONED, AND THIS PROBABLY REFLECTS CONTINUING EFFORTS BY THE REGIME TO CURB AND REDUCE THE ACRIMONY IN THE CURRENT POLITICAL FUEDS. THE EDITIRIAL IS LIBERALLY SPRINKLED WITH CALLS FOR UNITY, INDICATING THAT IT IS STILL ELUSIVE. (WE NOTE THAT THE THEME OF UNITY ALSO APPEARED IN SLOGANS OBSERVED BY USLO PEKING;PEKING 1154.)

4. "MAJOR ISSUES"-- SUCH AS COMBINING THE THREE GENERATIONS, TRAINING SUCCESSORS, APYING ATTENTION TO THE SUPERSTRUCTURE, AND SUPPORTING "NEWLY EMERGING THINGS OF SOCIALISM"-- AND ARE SAID TO BE "REPEATEDLY DISCUSSED" IN THE CONGRESS DOCUMENTS, WHERE THEY MUST BE THOROUGHLY UNDERSTOOD THROUGH HARD STUDY. HOWEVER, THE EDITORIAL OMITTS ANY MENTION OF SPECIFIC CURRENT PROBLEMS, SUCH AS THE CONTENTIOUS YOUTH-TO-THE-COUNTRYSIDE PROGRAMS, JUST AS IT ESCHEWS ACCLAIM FOR SPEVFC REGIME ACHIEVEMENTS OTHER THAN THE CRUSHING OF LIN AND THE CONTINUATION OF THE NINTH PARTY CONGRESS LINE. CONCLUDING, THE EDITORIAL MODESTLY AND SOBERLY CALLSIVOR RUNNING "CHINA'S AFFAIRS WELL" AT HOME AND ABROAD AND FOR "HARD WORK TO BUILD CHINA INTO A POWERFUL SOCIALIST COUNTRY."

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TM FOREIGN AFFAIRS INTRUDE ONLY TWICE, WHEN THE EDITORIAL REPEATS HEOMEIR CHOU'S WARNING ABOUT THE THREAT OF A SOVIET SURPRISE ACCACT. AND HIS OBSERVATION OF GREAT DISORDERS IN THE WORLD.JIN THE CONTEXT OF THE EDITORUAL, BOTH REMARKS ALSO SEEM TO BEAR ON THE PRC'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS; THE SOVIET THREAT AS A RALLYING POINT FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL UNITY, AND WORLD DISORDERS, PERHAPS, AS A SETTING FOR CHINA'S OWN RECENT DOMESTIC TROUBLES. OSBORN

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